

Next Week Sermon

Are We Saved by Faith or by Works

James 2:14-26

PREACHER

Dr. Peter Ng

16 July, 2023

Exodus Series: Lessons from the 10 Plagues Part 1: The Hardening of the Heart

Exodus 5-10:29

PREACHER

Arnold Lim

23 July, 2023

Exodus Series: Lessons from the 10 Plagues Part 2: YHWH vs the Gods of Egypt

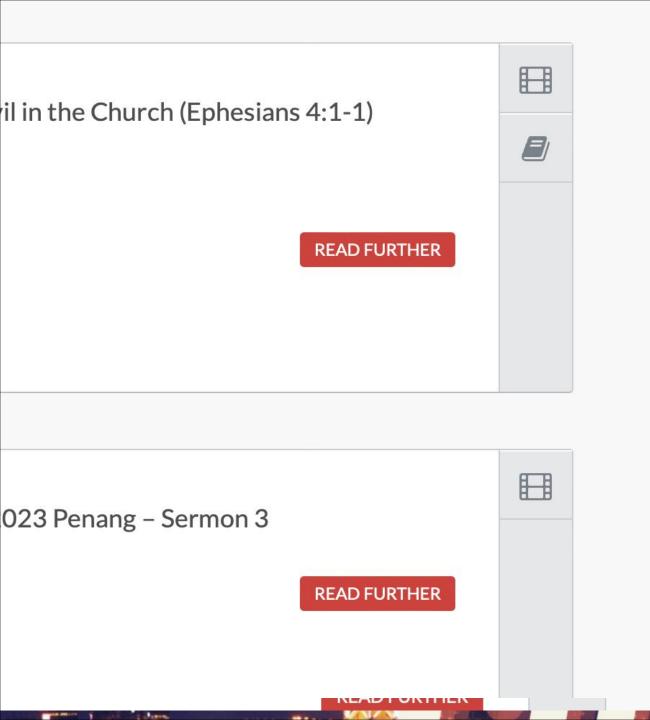
Exodus 5-10:29

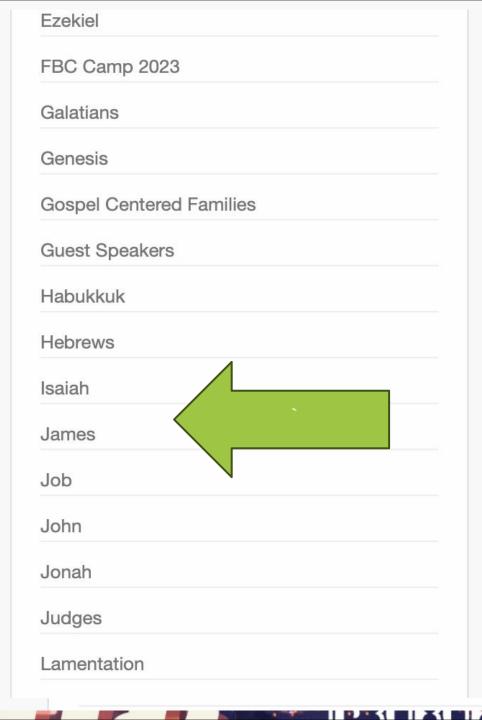
PREACHER

Arnold Lim

THE BOOK OF JAMES

- 1) Knowing God in Adversity (James 1:1-12)a
- 2) Understanding the nature of Temptation James 1:12-18
- 3) Knowing the Heart of God: Why He Chooses the Poor Part 1 (James 2:1-5)
- 4) Knowing the Heart of God: Why He Chooses the Poor Part 2 (James 2:5-17)
- 5) Are we saved by faith or by Works. James 2:14-26
- 6) Speech and Spirituality James 3: 1-12
- 7) The nature of true wisdom James 3:13-4:10
- 8) Slandering, Arrogance and Anxiety James 4:11-17
- 9) Perils of Materialism James 5:1-6
- 10) Patience James 5:7-12
- 11) Praying for the sick James: 5:13-20







TEMPTATION

- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is overcome trusting Him and His Word

TEMPTATION-LIFE AND DEATH ISSUE

WORD REPEATED 5 TIMES

James 1:12-15 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is <u>tempted</u>, "I am being <u>tempted</u> by God," for God cannot be <u>tempted</u> with evil, and he himself <u>tempts</u> no one.

14 But each person is <u>tempted</u> when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

2 Timothy 4: 10 For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.



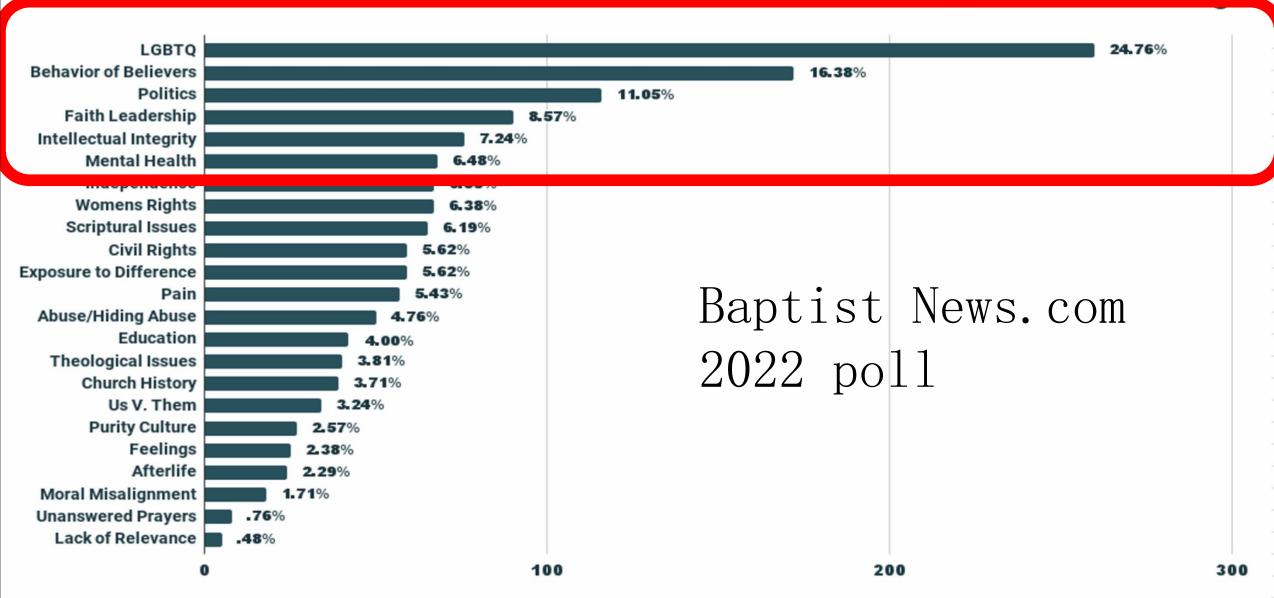
Matt 6: 13 Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

1 Timothy 1:19b, some have made shipwreck of their faith, 20 among whom are <u>Hymenaeus and Alexander</u>,





Final Reason for Leaving



ACCUSATION AGAINST GOD

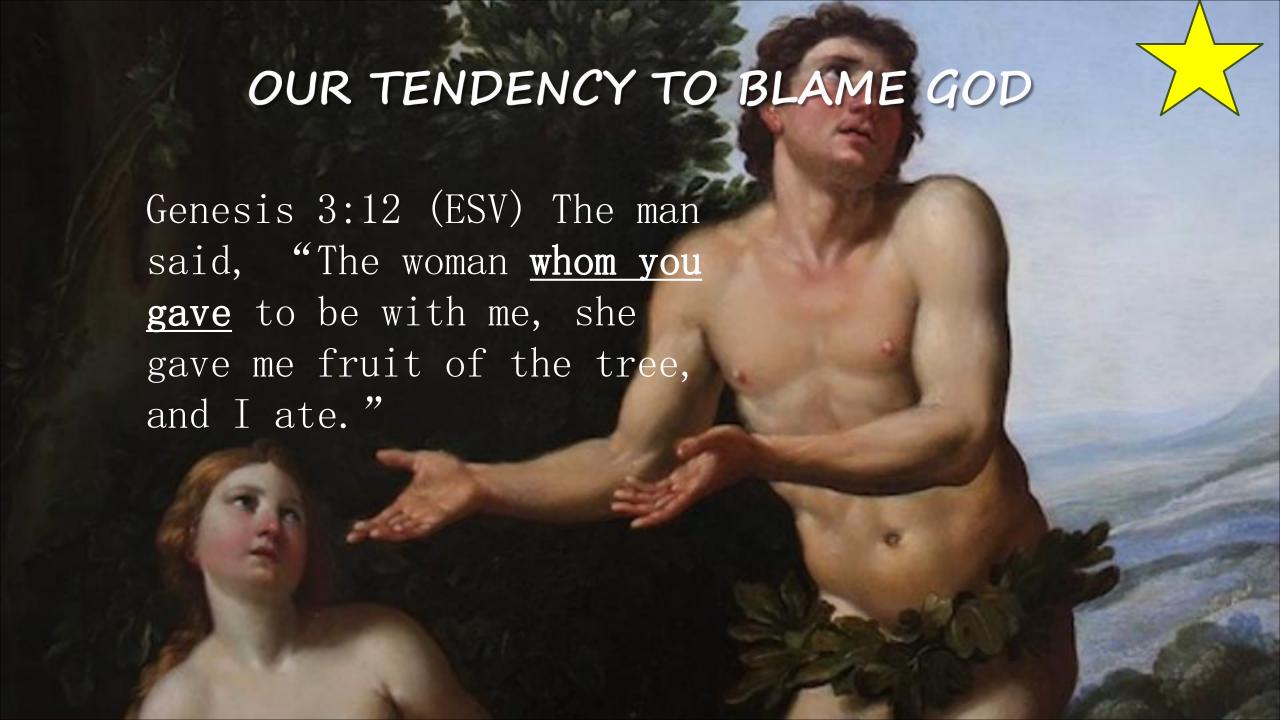
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14 But each person is <u>tempted</u> when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.



THE ISSUE IS DECEPTION

James 1:16-1 7 Do not be deceived my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.



GOD

Satan comes in to fill in the b<u>l</u>anks Interpretation



SATAN FILLS IN THE BLANKS



Genesis 3:4-5 (ESV) But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

GOD COMMANDS THIS IS MY BELOVED SON "If you are the Son of God" Matthew 4:3 (ESV)
And the tempter came and said to him,
"If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

Matt 4:5 "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

COMPLIANCE

GOD

Curse God and die



Job 2:9 (ESV) Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse



GOD

God wants to torture you He could have stopped this!





THE TRUTH



James 1:12-15 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those It is impossible for God to be tempted or tempt

Let no one say when he is <u>tempted</u>, "I am being <u>tempted</u> by God," for God cannot be <u>tempted</u> with evil, and he himself <u>tempts</u> no one.





MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

How can God tempt us away from His image

Purpose

- Reflect
- Relate
- Represent

THE TRUTH

God's intention—crown of life

James 1:12-15 Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to

Let no one say when he is <u>tempted</u>, "I am being <u>tempted</u> by God," for God cannot be <u>tempted</u> with evil, and he himself <u>tempts</u> no one.

EVERY TRIAL IS A TEMPTATION

James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet <u>trials</u> of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

James 1:2-4

James 1:13-15

External

Trials

Peirasmos

Temptations

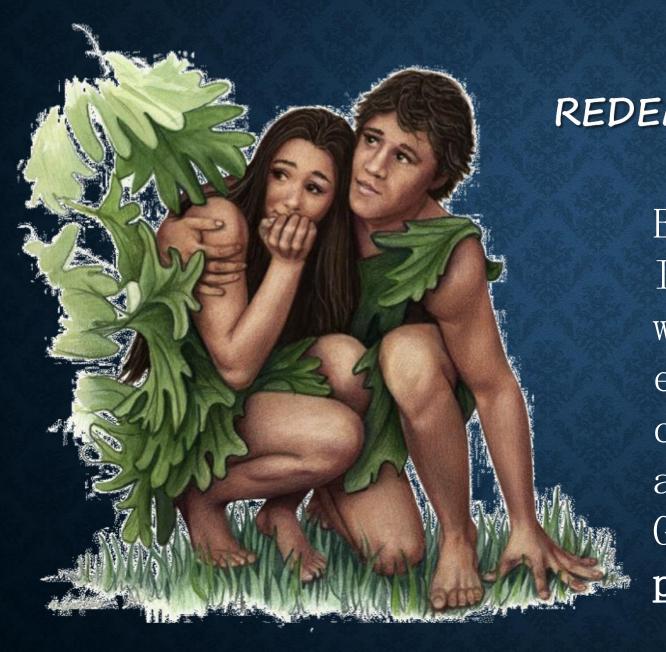
Internal

GOD

Peirasmos The means in which God transforms us to give us the crown

of life





GOD REDEMPTIVE PUNISHMENT

> Ecclesiastes 3:14 (ESV) I perceived that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.

James 1:2-4 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

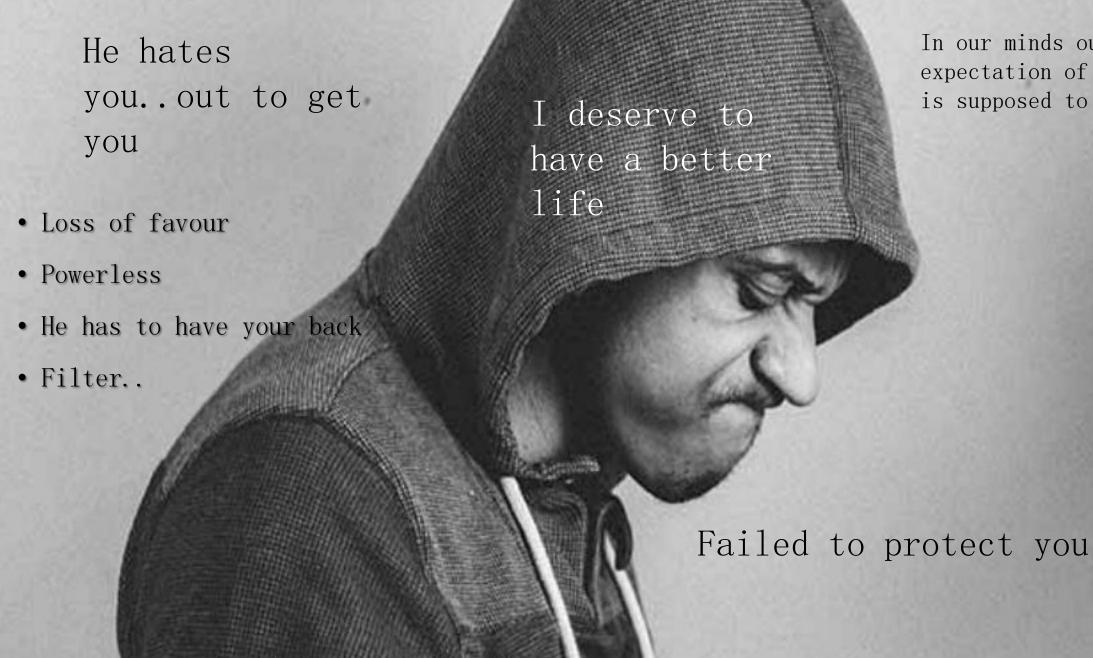
12. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life,







Matthew 16:24-27 (ESV) Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? 2



In our minds our mental expectation of what Goo is supposed to do



OSCAR AMAECHINA

President of <u>Afri-Mission and</u> <u>Evangelism Network</u>, Abuja, Nigeria



, "You frauds should leave my compound now before I lose control and butcher you guys. Where was God when bandits killed my wife and my children? I have served God with all my heart; I have never missed paying my tithe; I have sowed seed for protection for my household yet your God allowed my family members to be wiped out in a day. Leave my compound because I know that you are here to lie to me and collect my

TEMPTATION

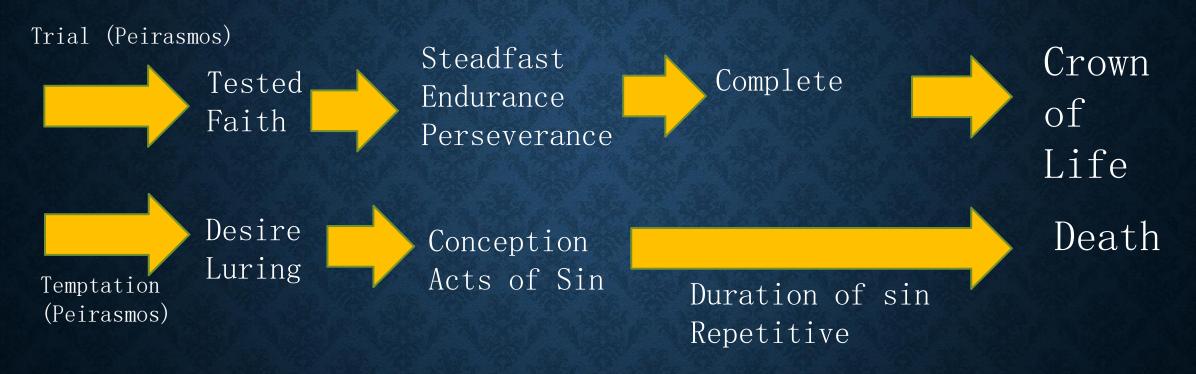
- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is overcome trusting Him and His Word



James 1:14-15 (ESV) But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his <u>own desire</u>.

15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

TWO POSSIBLE OUTCOMES



James 1:14-15 (ESV) But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

THE ANATOMY OF DESIRE

James 1:14 But each person is tempted when he is <u>lured</u> and enticed by his own <u>desire</u>.

Epithumias

38 times NT

Strong Liking

X 3 positive

Over desire Lust Covet

DESIRE

OVERDESIRE

Good

Object - wife

Normal amount Healthy

Recognition it comes from God

Sexual

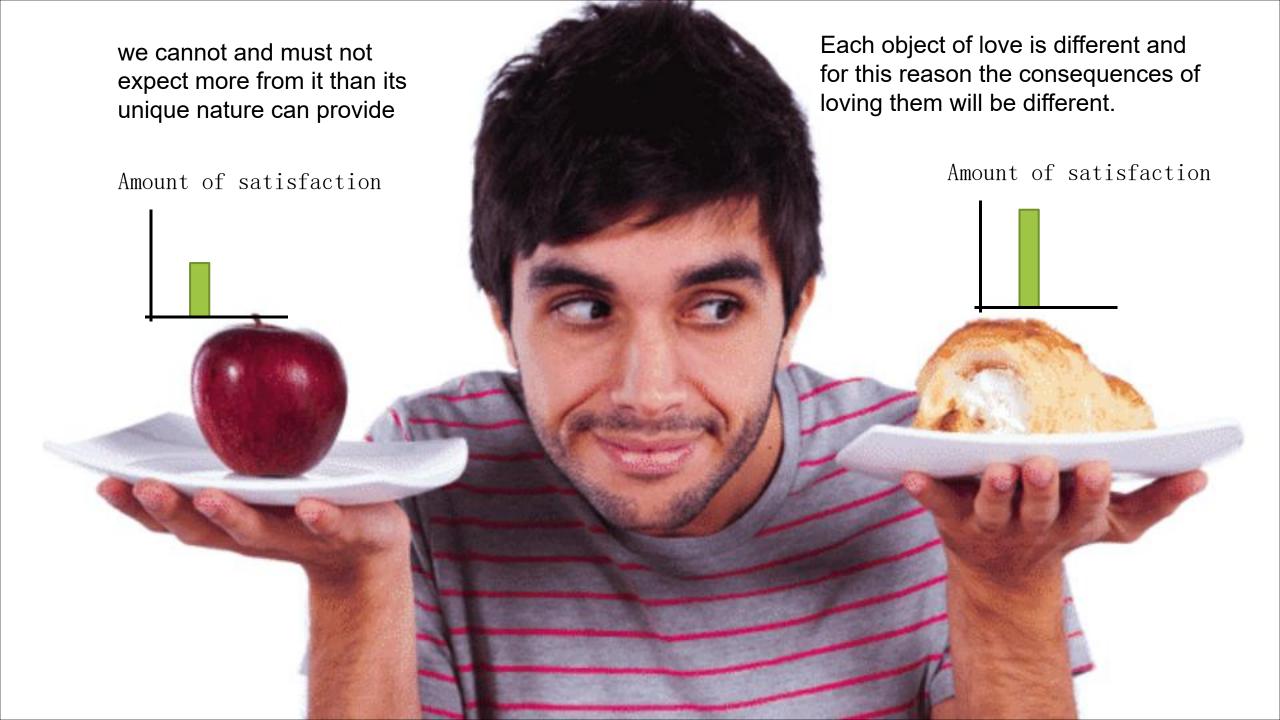
Food

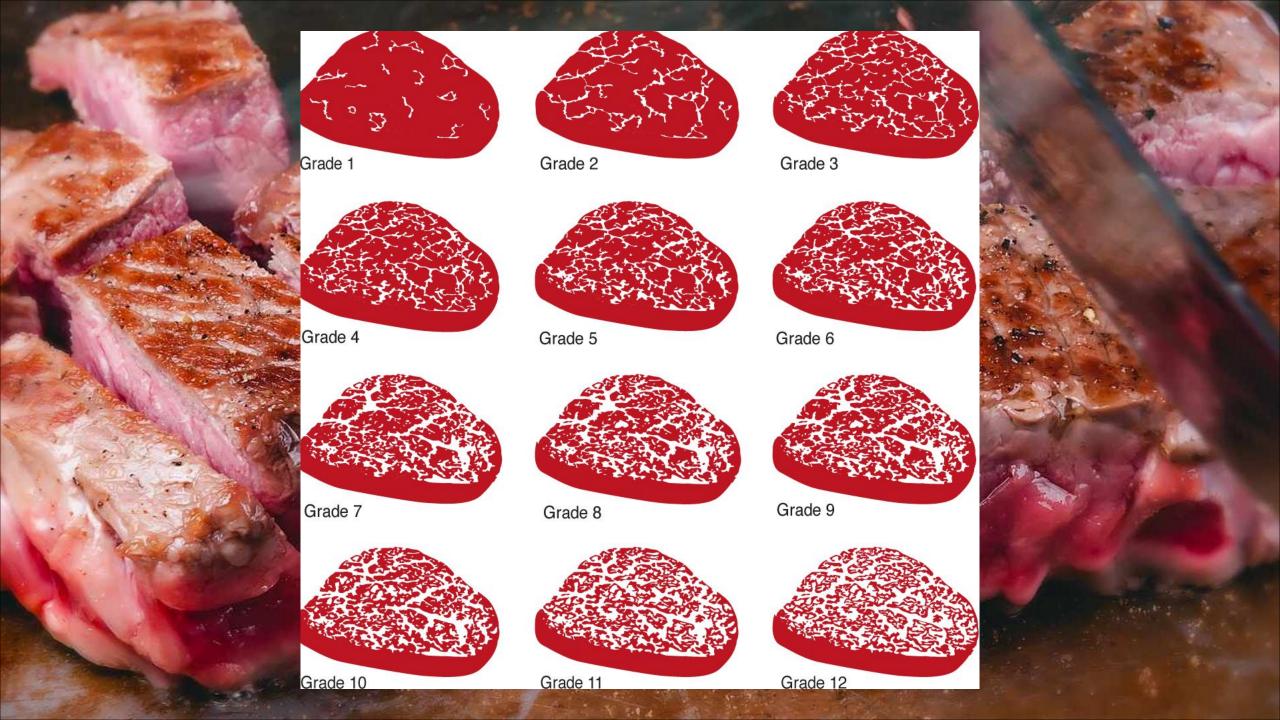
Glory

Sin

Object - other woman= Lust

Excessive—
unhealthy,
unloving,
addictive..obesity
Pride, arrogance







Godliness rightly ordered love LOVE

Love small things small amount

Love big things big amount

SIN

Love big things small amount

Love small things big amount



MONEY CAN DO GOOD

Desire small things small amount

Desire small things large amount





PRIORITIES OF LOVE





God

Family

Job

Friends

Hobbies

What a person loves, and how he or she loves it, will determine the course and character of life, as well as the condition of society

DISORDERED LOVE



Hobbies

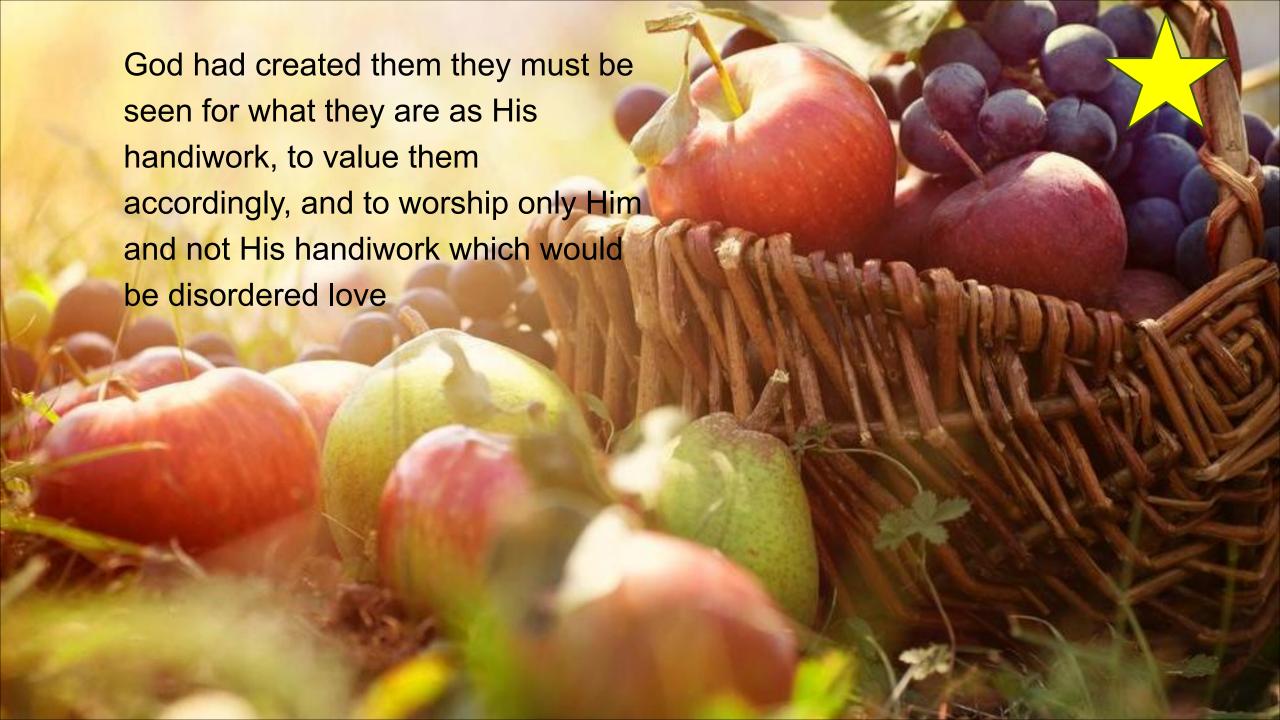
Job

Family

Friends

God

Love is disordered when it seeks final happiness in temporal and finite objects,







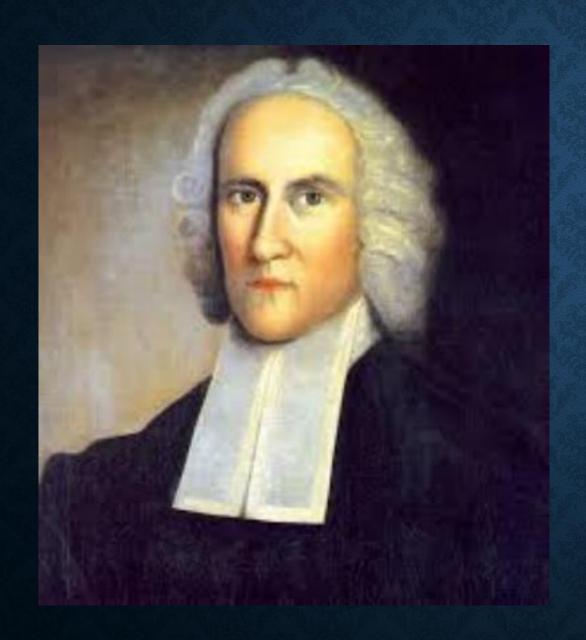


LOVE GOD

Love big things big amount

LOVE JOB

Love small things big amount



JONATHAN EDWARDS

"You will only do what you most desire to do."

DEMONIZED

DESIRE



Good

Sin

Object - wife

Sexual

Object - other woman= Lust

Normal amount Healthy

Food

Excessiveunhealthy, unloving, addictive..obesity Pride, arrogance

Recognition it comes from God

Glory

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Elizab

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



What is it like to live with obesity in Peninsular Malaysia? A qualitative study

Nor Akma Yunus^{1,2} | Grant Russell³ | Rosediani Muhamad² | Chris Barton³

Malaysian life is centred around

Summary

Understanding the experience of people living with obesity is crucial for delivering holistic care relevant to the socio-cultural context. Although half of the Malaysian adults have excessive weight, the lived experience of people with obesity in the Malaysian context is not well studied. Using the principles of hermeneutic phenome-

polary, this study explores the lived experience of adults with chesity in Malaysia

¹School of Primary and Allied Health Care, Monash University, Melloourne, Victoria, Australia

²Department of Family Medicine, School of Medical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kota Bharu, Malaysia

³Department of General Practice, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine.





Discreet shoe-fitting device.







SHEIK TAJ ALDIN AL-HILALI

"If you take out uncovered meat and place it outside ... without cover, and the cats come to eat it ... whose fault is it, the cats' or the uncovered meat's? The uncovered meat is the problem. If she was in her room, in her home, in her

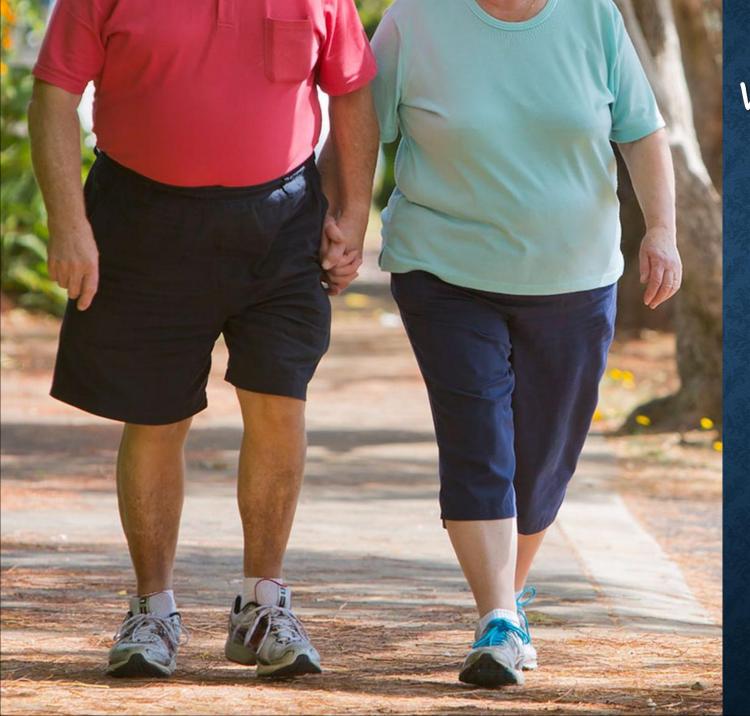
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CORINTHIAN PROBLEM

1 Corinthians 6:13-14 (ESV) 13 "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

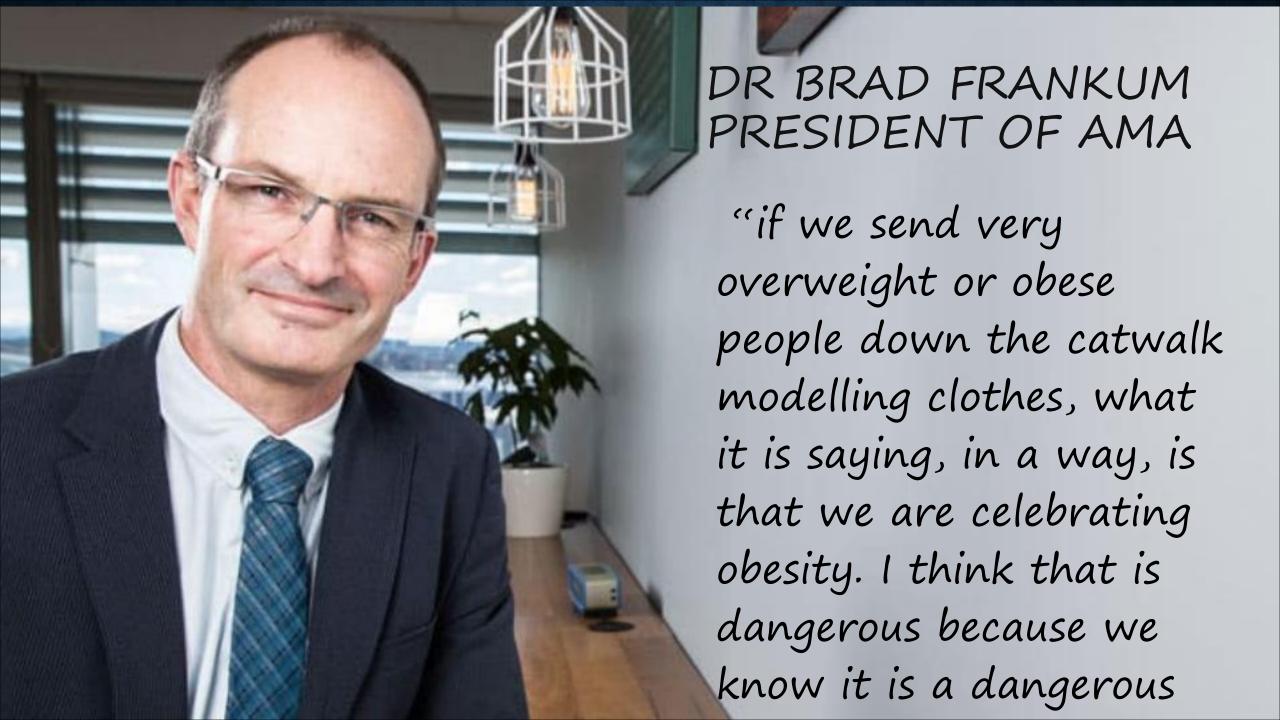


WE'RE A NATION OF FAT, SAD DRINKERS, SURVEY FINDS THE AGE 14/9/11

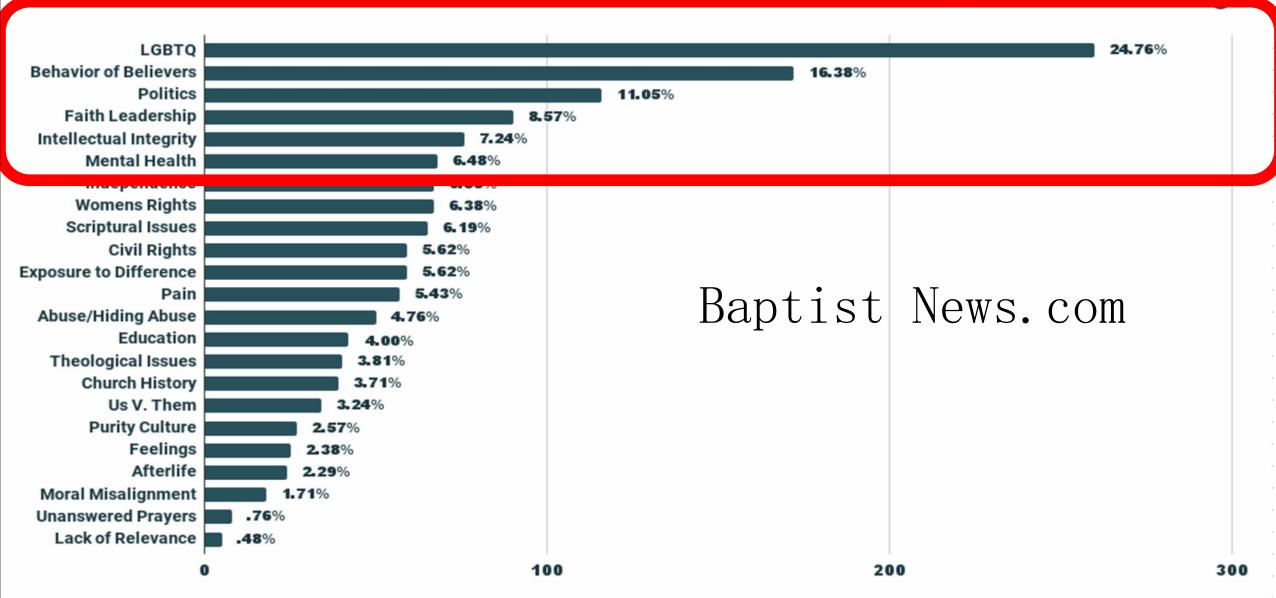
60% of Australians were overweight according to BMI but did not admit it



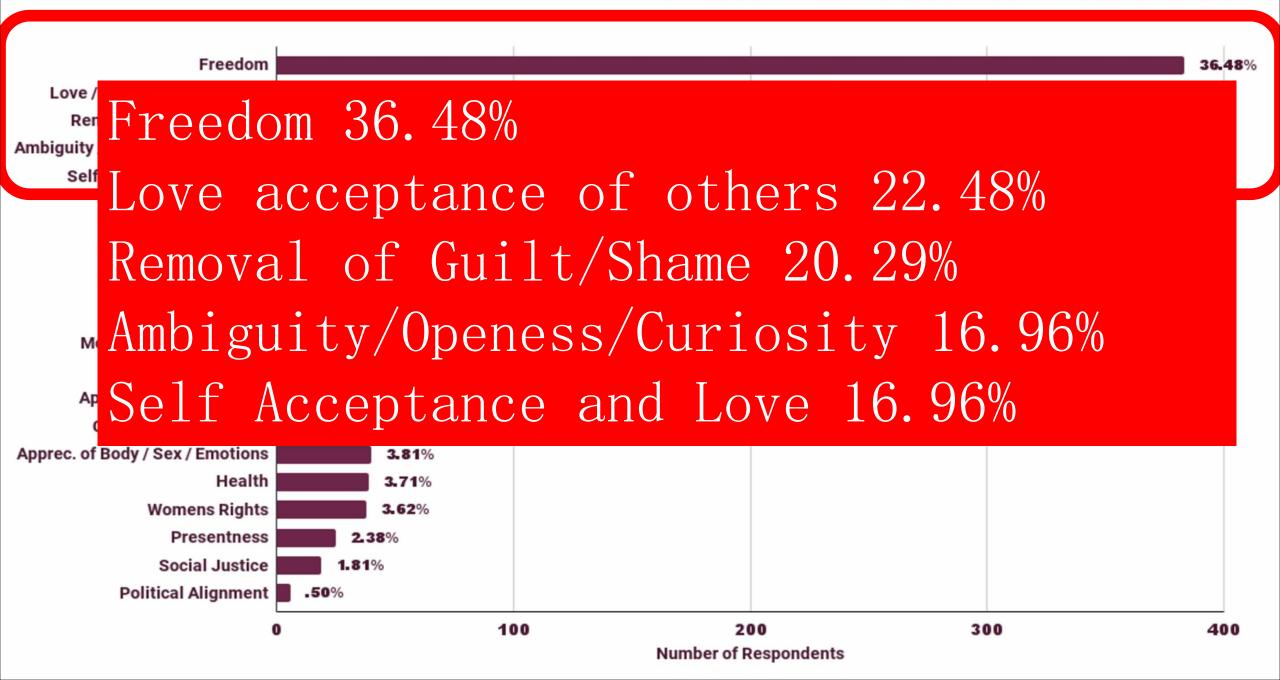




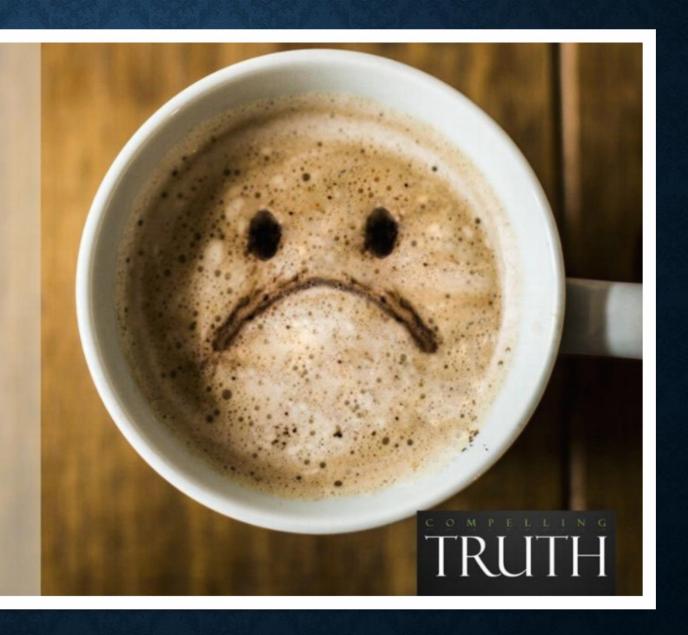
Final Reason for Leaving

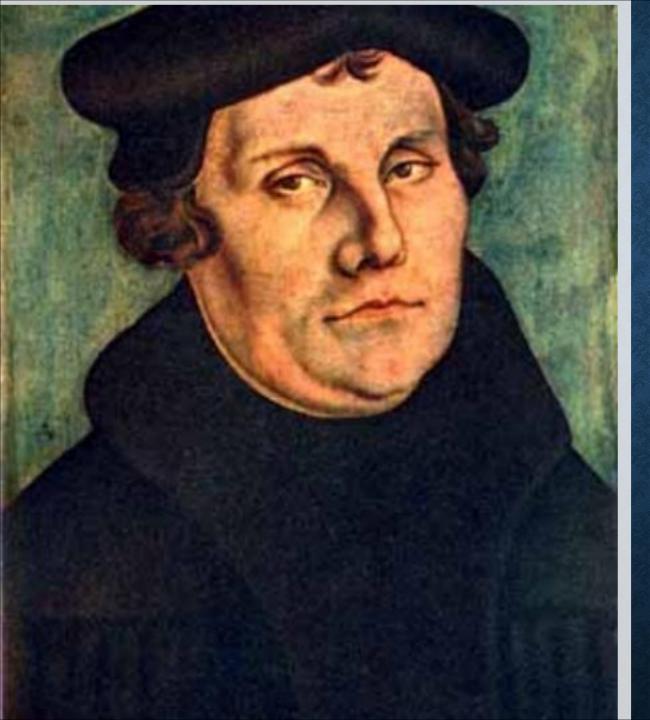


What's Gained with New Framework



GOD SEEMS LIKEA COSMIC KILLJOY. IS HE?





MARTIN LUTHER

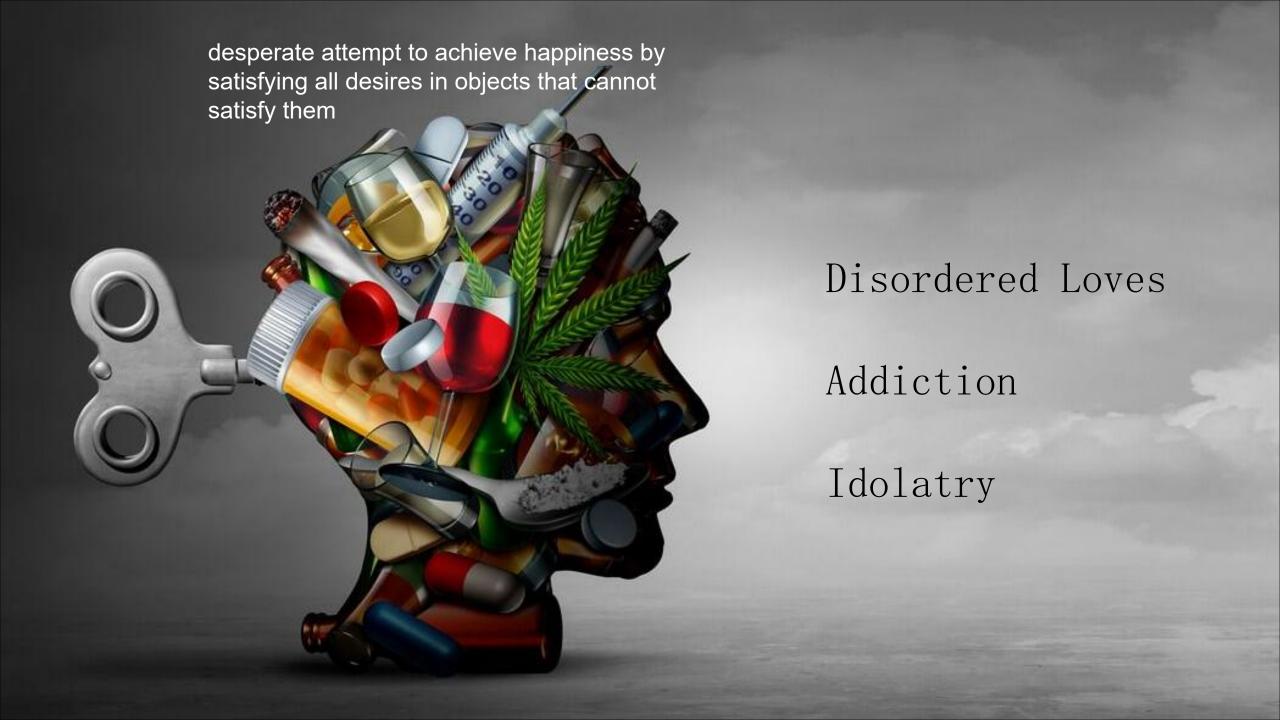


"whatever your heart clings to and relies upon, that is your God; trust and faith of the heart alone make both God and idol."



EZEKIEL 14:4

"Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces".





SUBTLE

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (ESV) Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.





"Entertaining, illuminating and — when you recognize yourself in the stories it tells — mortifying." — Wall Street Journal

MISTAKES WERE MADE

(but not by me)

WHY WE JUSTIFY FOOLISH BELIEFS, BAD DECISIONS, AND HURTFUL ACTS

UPDATED, WITH A NEW CHAPTER:
"DISSONANCE, DEMOCRACY, AND THE DEMAGOGUE"

Carol Tavris and Elliot Aronson

WHEN TROUBLE COMES

"Your memories are distorted in a selfenhancing direction in all kinds of ways.

Lawyer Datuk V.K. Lingam



LINGAM ROYAL COMISSION

"I cannot remember" x14 "I cannot remember" x18









WHAT WE DESIRE, WHY WE DESIRE, RELATIONSHIP WITH DESIRE

- It's source (where it came from)
- It's purpose (what it wants and why that matters)
- It's value (what it adds to your life and at what cost)
- It's relationship to other things and people





1. Do I feel like I have enough money and possessions right now, or do I feel I need more?

The need for more drives you and enslaves

Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 1 TIm 6:6-7



2. Do I have enough power and control in my life, or do I feel my life requires more?

Hedged bets, insurance derivatives



3. Is there a relationship in my life to which I am so attached that I have to have that for my life to be truly meaningful



4. What am I willing to betray my values to obtain if I think I won't get caught?



5. What desire is so strong that it can warp my thinking and make me engage in defensiveness, self-justification, denial, and also secrecy?



6. What desire do I have that sometimes gets in the way of my paying attention to God or fully following God?

TEMPTATION

- 1) Temptation is not caused by God
- 2) Temptation is caused by our disordered desires
- 3) Temptation is overcome trusting Him and His

WUL U



THE TRUTH

James 1:16-18 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

THE DECEPTION



James 1:13 (ESV) Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God, " for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

Gpd causes me to fall to temptation God allows bad things God is not good

THE TRUTH 1. UNCHANGING CHARACTER OR GOD IN CREATION

James 1:16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

THE SAME GOD OF CREATION

Genesis 1:17-18 (ESV) And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.



GIFTS REFLECT CHARACTER







GOD DOES NOT CHANGE

Jeremiah 33:20-21 (ESV) Thus says the LORD: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time, 21 then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and my covenant with the Levitical priests my ministers.



Jeremiah 31:35-36 (ESV) Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the LORD of hosts is his name:

36 "If this fixed order departs from before me, declares the LORD, then shall the offspring of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever.

THE TRUTH 2. OUR OWN NATURE AND PURPOSE IN SALVATION

James 1:16-18 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.





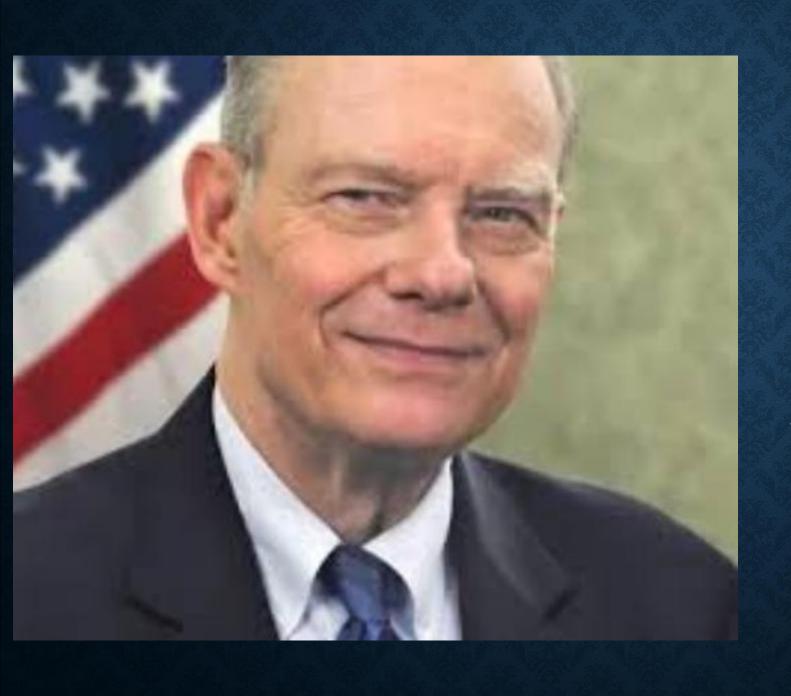




Genesis 39:8-9 (ESV) But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, because of me my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my charge. 9 He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"



Philippians 1:6 (ESV) And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.



PETER MARSHALL "Temptation is an opportunity to conquer. When we eventually reach the goal to which we are all striving, God will look us over, not for diplomas, but for scars."









GLORY IS FOREVER

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (ESV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.